

Build System

Background

A critical component of Agile Software Engineering is Continuous Integration loosely understood to be integration of individual efforts into the overall system frequently. At the center of such a notion is a build of the entire application whenever an individual engineer releases his/her work. Most teams can ill afford manual builds. There are quite a few build systems such as Jenkins (<https://www.jenkins.io>), circleci (<https://circleci.com>) that support such automation.

In this projectlet we will build the core of a build system. The key features then are:

- ✻ Retrieve the source code from a revision control system such as git
- ✻ Create the links necessary to trace the build to the source code
- ✻ Build the application
- ✻ Publish the build artifacts
- ✻ Archive the log of all the activity

Requirement Specs

Let us specify the requirements for a build tool called jobs.

Id	Need
1	Support git based repositories
2	Support distinct branches within git repositories
3	The tool be able to enumerate the branches at the time of initialization or later.
4	Each build shall be assigned a unique identification starting with 1
5	The tool shall support a retention criteria - in terms of the number of builds.
6	The tool shall generate traceability information that can be included in the builds suitable for languages: Ada, C, C++, Python, and Go. The traceability information can also be generated as ini formatted text files.
7	Traceability information required: Branch name Commit id - brief and full Build date and time Build System ie host name where built
8	The tool shall support the following stages of builds: initialization, build, publish, archive. Initialization - retrieve other repositories as necessary Build - build the application Publish - the build artifacts to be published Archive - Capture the build history as an archive
9	The build stages can be driven by a script checked out from the repository
7	

Design Inputs

Req ID	Command Line Example	
1	jobs init [options] git@bitbucket.org:ToprLLC/passwords.git	At the designated workspace, create the top level structure for this job.
2	—jobspace=<dirname> default: \$JOBSPACE	Specify a folder as the jobspace. The repository name is used as the folder for this job's workspace; For the above repository the name will be passwords.
3	—init=scriptname Optional	Name of a script file to be found in the repository that is used for the init stage of the builds
4	—build=scriptname Optional	Name of a script file to be found in the repository that is used for the build stage of the builds.
5	—publish=scriptname Optional	As above, a script for publishing the archives
6	—archive=scriptname Optional	As above, a script for archiving build logs
7	—trace=(C,C++,Ada,Python,Go,Text) default: Ada	Trace information file to be generated in the specified language(s)
8	—retention=number default: 3	
9	jobs enumerate jobname	For the specified example, the job name is passwords. This commands enumerates the branches and creates a branch workspace.
10	jobs build jobname [branchname]	For the specified branch perform a build as the next build id.
11	—pull	Git pull before building
12	—script=scriptname	Execute the script from the repository. The default is to execute the job specifications in the order: init, build, publish and archive
13	—all	This switch requests a build of all the branches
14	jobs purge <job name>	Purge the build artifacts in conformance with the retention specifications

Req ID	Command Line Example	
14	jobs show	Complete log of all the builds

Learning Objectives

- ✓ Manipulate, navigate directory structures in a platform independent way.
- ✓ Creating, storing configuration files in a standard format - json
- ✓ Executing external commands and capture their output